

Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/405,921	YOSELOFF ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Steven Ashburn	3714	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Steven Ashburn.

(3) Tom Hughes (consulted)

(2) Mark Litman.

(4) _____

Date of Interview: 24 October 2002.

Type: a) ☐ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☒ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.

If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 9.

Identification of prior art discussed: 'Arcade Retro-fit'.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☒ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Applicant proposed amendments to the claims (attached). The examiner did not commit to entering the amendment. Applicant will submit a response to this action.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

i) ☒ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview (if box is checked).

Unless the paragraph above has been checked, THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

HA
SPE
3714

Steven Ashburn
Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case unless both applicant and examiner agree that the examiner will record same. Where the examiner agrees to record the substance of the interview, or when it is adequately recorded on the Form or in an attachment to the Form, the examiner should check the appropriate box at the bottom of the Form which informs the applicant that the submission of a separate record of the substance of the interview as a supplement to the Form is not required.

It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

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SEPTEMBER 13, 2002 Time: 1:15 PM. (Edina, Minn.CST)

Applicant:	Mark Yoseloff et al.	Art Unit	3713
Serial No.	09/405,921	Examiner	S. Ashburn
Filed:	September 24, 1999	Docket No.	PA0368.ap.US
Title:	VIDEO GAMING APPARATUS		

Washington, D.C. 20231

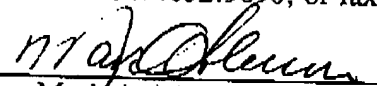
FAX NUMBER (703) 746.3229

*** Please deliver to Examiner S. ASHBURN Art Unit Group 3713**

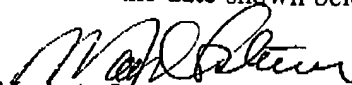
THIS LETTER IS AN UNOFFICIAL COMMUNICATION OF PROPOSED CLAIMS TO DISCUSS

Total pages of this transmission, including THIS COVER SHEET: 6 pgs

If you do NOT receive all of the pages described above, please telephone us at 952.832.9090, or fax us at 952.832.9191.

By: 
Name: Mark A. Litman
Reg. No.: Reg. No. 26,390

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.


Mark A. Litman

OCTOBER 23, 2002

Date of Transmission

OCTOBER 22, 2002 DRAFT

CLAIMS WE ARE WORKING WITH: THIS IS MARK LITMAN'S ATTEMPTS TO DRAFT LANGUAGE TO MEET THE OBJECTIVES OF ADDING STRUCTURAL CONTENT TO THE CLAIMS TO MORE CLEARLY OVERCOME THE PRIOR ART OF RECORD.

9. A method for reconfiguring a computerized wagering game apparatus having **peripheral functions** and a harness for associating a computerized game controller with output devices in the apparatus, the method comprising:

a) removing an original special-purpose computerized game controller used to control a computerized wagering game from the apparatus, the original computerized game controller designed to and capable of working exclusively with a particular computerized wagering game apparatus;

b) **leaving at least two peripheral functions within the gaming apparatus, the at least two peripheral functions selected from the group consisting of buttons, slot machine arms, touch screen coordination, sticks, coin acceptors, coin recognition systems, currency acceptors, currency recognition systems, credit card readers, smart card readers, security devices, counters, audio output, and video output;**

c) inserting a universal computerized game controller operable to control a video wagering game and/or slot wagering game that can be played on the video and/or slot wagering game apparatus and an I/O interface that operatively couples the universal computerized game controller to user interface devices of the wagering game apparatus **including the at least two peripheral functions;** and

d) sending signals from the computerized game controller through the I/O interface and harness to confirm proper communication between the computerized game controller and the user interface devices.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein after said sending signals, the video and/or slot gaming apparatus enables a video **gaming device** and/or slot display device associated with the video **gaming device** and/or slot wagering game apparatus to provide a visual representation of a signal provided by the computerized

game controller such that the video and/or slot display device displays at least one visual image selected from the group consisting of a) computerized wagering game status information and b) symbol elements that change with the play of the wagering game.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein the universal computerized game apparatus is an IBM PC-compatible computer system and the original special-purpose computerized game controller was not an IBM PC-compatible computer system.
12. The method of claim 9, wherein the I/O interface is operatively coupled to a communication port selected from the group consisting of a PC serial port, a PC parallel port, and a USB port.
13. The method of claim 9, wherein at least one of the user interface devices is selected from the group consisting of buttons, slot machine arms, touch screen coordinates and joy sticks.
14. The method of claim 9, wherein at least one of the user interface devices comprises a credit management device.
15. The method of claim 14, wherein the credit management device is selected from the group consisting of coin acceptors, coin recognition systems, currency acceptors, currency recognition systems, credit card readers, and smart card readers.
16. The method of claim 9, wherein at least one of the user interface devices comprises a security device.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein at least one of the security devices is selected from the group consisting of tilt switches, device integrity switches, and spurious electrical discharge detectors.
18. The method of claim 9, wherein the universal computerized game apparatus is an IBM PC-compatible computer system.
21. The method of claim 9 wherein the universal computerized game controller is an embedded mother board.
29. A method for reconfiguring a computerized wagering game apparatus having a harness for associating computerized game controller with output devices in the apparatus, the method comprising:
- a) removing an original special-purpose computerized game controller used to control a computerized wagering game from the apparatus, the original computerized game controller designed to and capable of working exclusively with a particular computerized wagering game apparatus, while leaving at least some peripheral devices and at least some pins within the computerized wagering game apparatus;
 - b) inserting a universal computerized game controller operable to control a video wagering game and/or slot wagering game that can be played on the video and/or slot wagering game apparatus and an I/O interface that operatively couples the universal computerized game controller to user interface devices of the wagering game apparatus, the universal computerized game controller comprising at least a random number generator; and
 - c) sending signals from the computerized game controller through the I/O interface and harness to confirm proper communication between the computerized game controller and the user interface devices by interrogating the video wagering game hardware through the I/O interface to assure that appropriate communication is being sent through pins.
30. The method of claim 29 wherein the peripherals includes at least one peripheral selected from the group consisting of button controls, coin acceptors, touch screen coordinates, credit managers, currency acceptors, operating system, security devices, game operating code and a store of images.

NEW CLAIM POSSIBILITY:

NEW: X. A method for reconfiguring a computerized wagering game apparatus having a harness for associating computerized game controller with output devices in the apparatus, the method comprising:

a) removing an original special-purpose computerized game controller used to control a computerized wagering game from the apparatus, the original computerized game controller designed to and capable of working exclusively with a particular computerized wagering game apparatus, while leaving at least some peripheral devices and at least some pins within the computerized wagering game apparatus;

b) inserting a universal computerized game controller operable to control a video wagering game and/or slot wagering game that can be played on the video and/or slot wagering game apparatus and an I/O interface that operatively couples the universal computerized game controller to user interface devices of the wagering game apparatus, the universal computerized game controller comprising at least a random number generator; and

c) sending signals from the computerized game controller through the I/O interface and harness to confirm proper communication between the computerized game controller and the user interface devices of a computerized gaming system through the I/O interface to determine the characteristics of attached devices.

XI. The method of claim X wherein determining characteristics of attached devices is used to map signal types to be delivered and configuration of the pins, and providing a circuit diagram with sufficient technical specifications from which a unit specific I/O board is constructed.

THIS COULD BE ONE TYPE OF STRUCTURE THAT WE COULD ASSERT IS ADDED DURING THE METHOD OF RECONFIGURING:

32. An interface adapter configured to operatively couple an interface assembly to a communication port operatively coupled to a computerized video and/or slot wagering game controller comprising nonvolatile storage with instructions stored thereon, the instructions when executed operable to cause the computer to execute a video and/or slot wagering game, including at least a random number generator to determine random outcomes, controlled via the user interface assembly and a pay table to define payouts for a random event.

Anything in here, also?

A computerized wagering game apparatus, comprising:

- a computerized game controller operable to control a computerized wagering game;
- a video display and/or slot display device providing a visual representation of a signal provided by the computerized game controller such that the video display device displays at least one visual image selected from the group consisting of
 - a) computerized wagering game status information and
 - b) symbol elements that change with the play of the wagering game;
- a communication port communicatively coupled to the computerized game controller;
- an interface assembly comprising one or more user interface devices; and
- an I/O interface adapter configured to communicatively couple the interface assembly to the communication port and only convert signals.